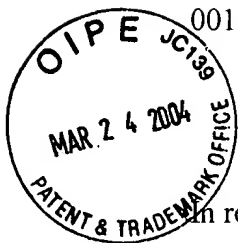


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

PAUL RAYMOND  
HIGGINBOTTOM ET AL.

Application No.: 09/523,595

Filed: March 10, 2000

For: ENCODING METHOD AND  
APPARATUS

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Examiner: Duy M. Dang  
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Group Art Unit: 2621  
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March 23, 2004

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**MAR 29 2004**

**Technology Center 2600**

**Mail Stop RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants  
Carl B. Wischhusen  
Registration No.: 43,279

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